



State of New Jersey

Jon S. Corzine
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection
Environmental Regulation
Diesel Risk Reduction Program
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Lisa P. Jackson
Commissioner

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RE: School bus voluntary early compliance with diesel retrofit requirements

Dear School Bus Owner,

Thank you for participating in the School Bus Early Compliance option of the Mandatory Diesel Retrofit Program. By meeting the requirements ahead of the full program, you are setting an example demonstrating the benefits of using the most stringent retrofit diesel emission controls available today.


The voluntary early compliance option allows participants to retrofit their school buses to meet the upcoming best available retrofit technology (BART) and closed crankcase ventilation system (CCVS) retrofit requirements ahead of the effective program rules. The Department expects to have rules effective in September 2008. Early compliance offers the benefit of having reduced student and vehicle operator exposure to diesel exhaust both within and around the school bus. Participating vehicles will also meet the new program requirements and will not need to be addressed when the new rules become effective.

Basic Steps to Compliance- The basic steps to the early compliance option are listed below. We have also enclosed our Guidance Document for Diesel-Powered School Buses, and instructions for completing a school bus inventory and cost estimate electronic submittal. The Department will give priority to school bus fleets that service, or have a base of operations within two miles of, a designated urban center or urban complex, where diesel vehicles and their emissions concentrate.

1. Identify regulated school buses for early compliance
2. Determine appropriate CCVS, BART and Installers
3. Submit electronic inventory and cost estimate(s) form
4. DEP review/approve cost estimates
5. Installation
6. Return signed compliance forms to the Department
7. One-Time Compliance Inspections

Program staff is available to provide assistance. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (609) 292-7953.

Sincerely,


Tony Iavarone
Diesel Risk Reduction Program

enclosures